

April 4, 1917

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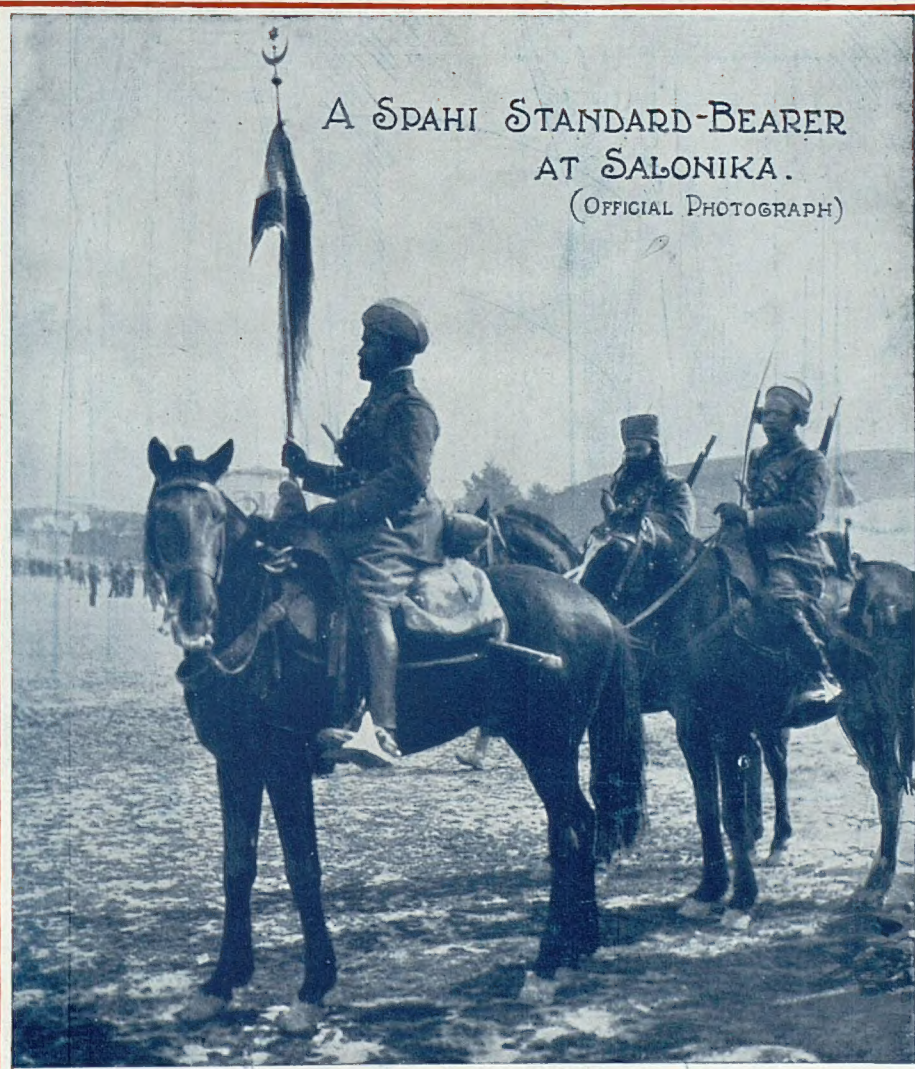
THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS.
APRIL 11, 1917.

EACH NUMBER COMPLETE IN ITSELF.

New Series. — PART 44

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THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS



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AT SALONIKA.
(OFFICIAL PHOTOGRAPH)



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FROCKS



fine quality soft
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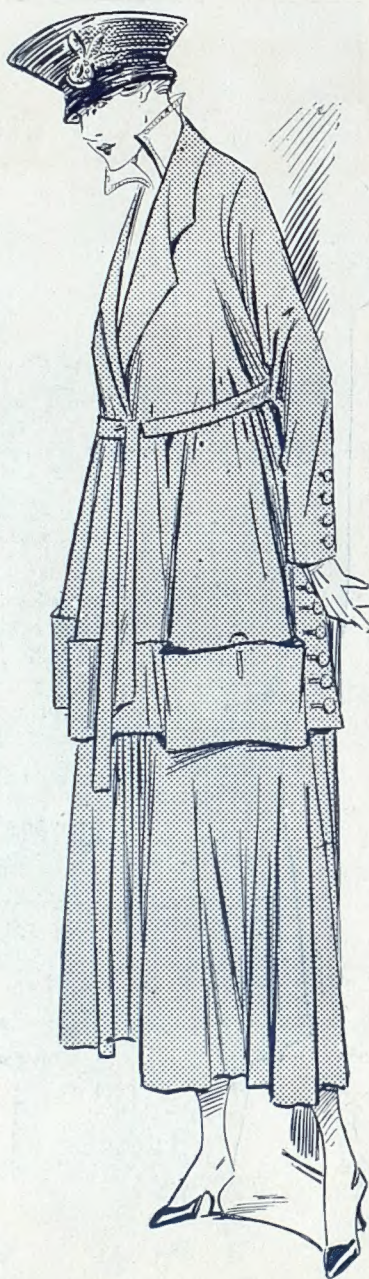
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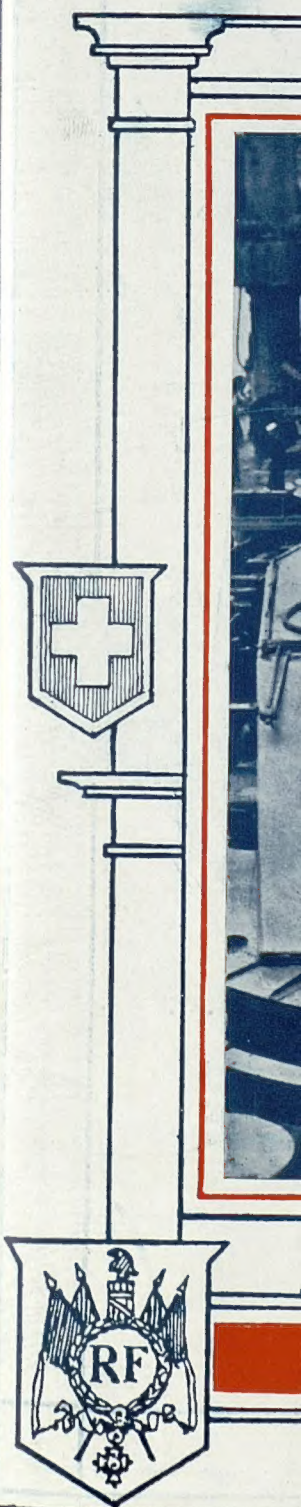
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THE WAR



April 4, 1917

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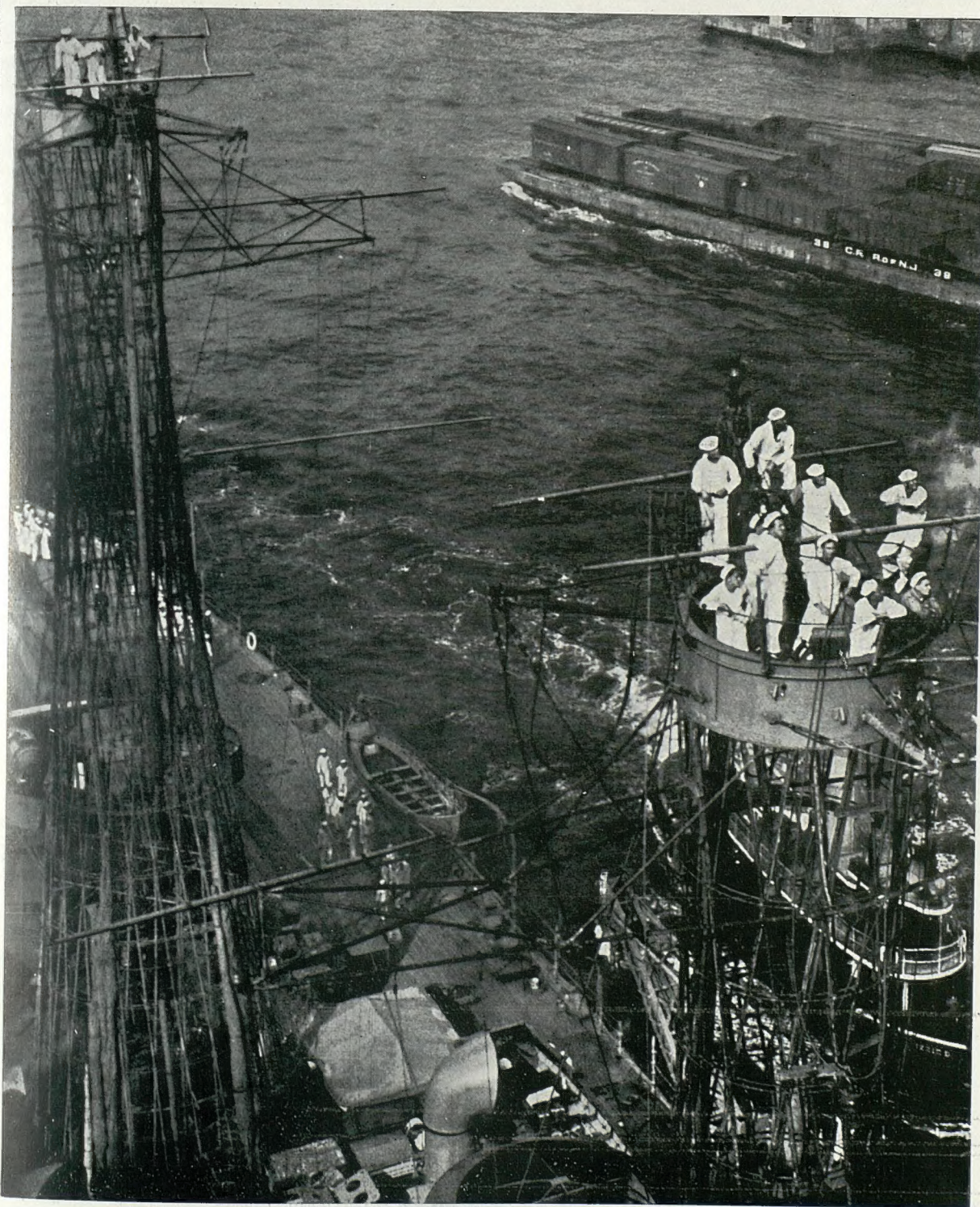
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NDON: MARCH 31, 1917

LONDON NEWS AND SKETCH, LTD.,
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 4, 1917.

The Illustrated War News, April 11, 1917.—Part 44, New Series.

The Illustrated War News



AMERICA'S FLEET: ONE OF THE MOST POWERFUL SHIPS—THE SUPER-DREADNOUGHT "NEVADA."

Photograph by S. and G.

THE GREAT WAR.

By W. DOUGLAS NEWTON.

IS THERE A LINE?—THE VALUE OF CAMBRAI—THE BRITISH THREAT.

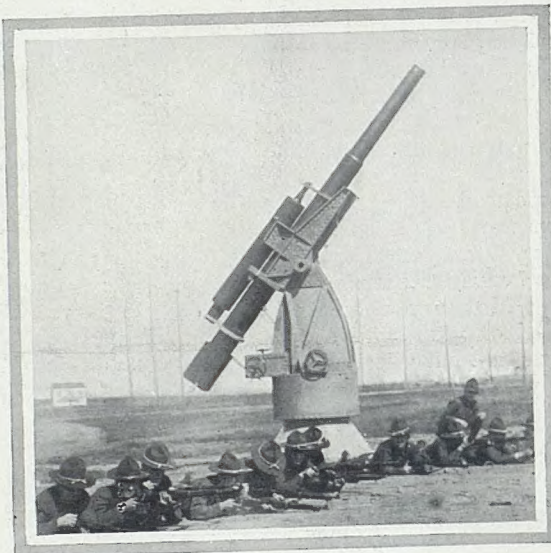
THERE are the elements of tragedy for Germany in this week's news: the "Hindenburg line" is beginning to go. I do not mean that "all is lost" for Germany in the West. I do not mean that the Allied assault is shattering or even damaging this now famous front of defence—and, indeed, I do not know whether the Allied advance guards have found the fabulous thing. All I mean is that our expert war commentators are beginning to pooh-pooh the whole idea. Woe to the idols of the populace! Last week we were bowing in simple veneration before "the line"; this week we are saying rather loftily, "Is there really such a thing?" Hindenburg, as usual, remains distractingly dumb.

Doubt as to the infallibility of Hindenburg came on the heels of the advance that swept us through Savy and its woods, and by—and over—the villages and rolling land that should have guarded St. Quentin. The free movement of the British that brought them on to the defences of the town by Salency, helped them cut the Cambrai

railway above it, and, in conjunction with the French, brought the right flank of our attack round under it, suggested to us that any scheme of defence pivoting on St. Quentin must be in danger, if it was not already crumpled and lost;

while the success of the French north of Soissons in their advance against the strong ground of the St. Gobain Forest seemed to bear out this idea. It seemed impossible that the Germans could have planned any system of defence that did not take in the high and advantageous country of the Aisne in the La Fère and Laon area, and yet the French had carried their vigorous attacks so far forward that they had driven dangerous wedges into this particular front, and were showing that they might be able to outflank the Aisne line and threaten La Fère and Laon—even as the joint forces of the Allies were threatening St.

Quentin. Moreover, the advance which had given the French their successes between the Oise and the Aisne had been attained only after very heavy fighting, fighting in which artillery work had made its reappearance in battle; while our own



U.S. LINESMEN READY FOR ACTION IN AIR AND ON LAND: A SECTION AT FIRING EXERCISE IN BATTLE FORMATION, AND AN AMERICAN ANTI-AIRCRAFT GUN OF THE NEWEST TYPE.—[Photograph by C.N.]



ONE OF THE SPECIAL FIELD ORGANISATIONS OF THE UNITED STATES ARMY: AN AMERICAN MOUNTED MACHINE-GUN CORPS AT DRILL—GALLOPING FORWARD.—[Photograph by Underwood and Underwood.]

advance upon St. Quentin, not merely opposition, not merely attack. Indeed, on the latterly been fluiding their men in great in a manner suggestive than mere attempts at guards. This stiffened the attack (obviously meant to relieve pressure) launched by the Germans in Champagne, seemed to convince us that at last we were in contact with the enigmatical "line." All the same, the French and the British made their definite progress, and this progress was such as to make the experts consider that the value of the "line" had been impaired beyond safety. H. doubt if Hindenburg

This new state of a situation, and we can West with new excitement. We can look at it in several ways. We can feel that the line is turned, and that Hindenburg, deprived of his hold, will now have to fight a rather desperate retreat back to some new line, either between himself and the frontier or at the frontier. Or we can feel that Hindenburg was really and truly forced out of the Bapaume-Péronne line by going back, hoping process of retreat and thrust us off. C.

R.

THREAT.

in conjunction with the flank of our attack, thus that any scheme against St. Quentin must be in a crumpled and lost; the success of the French north of Soissons, their advance against a strong ground of St. Gobain Forest, seemed to bear out this. It seemed impossible that the Germans could have planned any system of defence that would not take in the high advantageous count of the Aisne in the Fère and Laon area, and yet the French had carried their vigorous attacks so far forward that they had driven dangerous wedges into this particular front, and were showing that they might be able to flank the Aisne line and threaten La Fère and Laon—even as the joint forces of the Allies were threatening St. Quentin, a place which had given between the Oise and only after very heavy artillery work had been made; while our own



AMERICAN MOUNTED
and Underwood.]

advance upon St. Quentin had met with similar opposition, not merely in defence, but in counter-attack. Indeed, on the whole of this front, which had latterly been fluid, the Germans were deploying their men in great force, and contesting ground in a manner suggesting intentions more serious than mere attempts to hold us up with rearguards. This stiffening of front, together with the attack (obviously meant to relieve pressure) launched by the Germans in Champagne, seemed to convince us that at last we were in contact with the enigmatical "line." All the same, the French and the British made their definite progress, and this progress was such as to make the experts consider that the value of the "line" had been impaired beyond safety. Hence the rather querulous doubt if Hindenburg had an old line, after all.

This new state of affairs opens up an interesting situation, and we can examine the field of the West with new excitement. We can look at it in several ways. We can feel that the line is turned, and that Hindenburg, deprived of his hold, will now have to fight a rather desperate retreat back to some new line, either between himself and the frontier or at the frontier. Or we can feel that Hindenburg was really and truly forced out of the Bapaume-Péronne line by our pressure, and is now going back, hoping to find some front in the process of retreat that will enable him to stand and thrust us off. Or we may feel that perhaps

our ideas about a "line" may have been premature. We may have been wrong in fixing the new front Arras-Cambrai-St. Quentin-Laon, since the defensive system must be further back, and we must yet wait developments before we can decide if the "line" is broken, or if the "line" is yet to be reached and held. Each of these viewpoints has much to be said in its support, and

we can hold to them or reject them as we like. It may be, even, that there is something of the truth in every one of them.

The main error in fixing any definite front—that is, from an onlooker's point of view—is that our minds have a tendency to be hypnotised by points that suggest to us great rallying centres. We

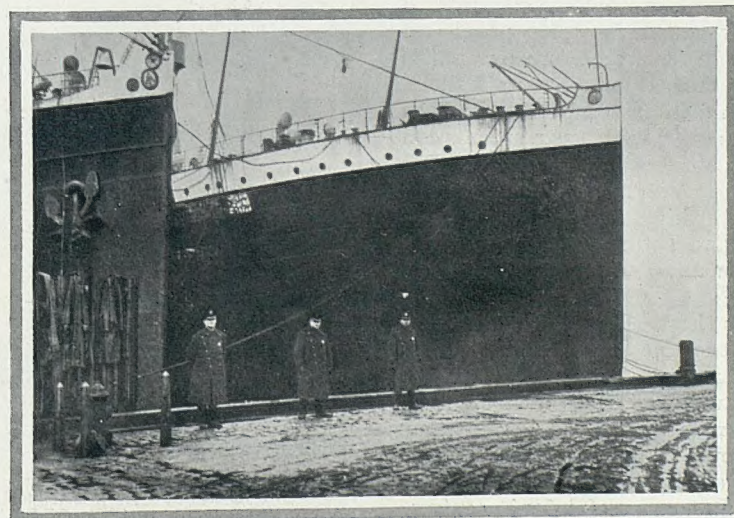
talk of Cambrai, St. Quentin, and Laon as bastions in any scheme of defence, because they are great rail and road centres, and have all the qualities required in nodal points. Perhaps, however, we are a little too prone to concentrate on these nodal points. It seems to me, even, that we might be making too much of them, especially of such points as St. Quentin and Laon.

I mean, we have been too ready to assume that these towns must be embodied in any line of defence, since they are indubitably towns of first importance in

communication and supply. But this does not follow at all. In this present war it has sometimes been wise (as it has sometimes been necessary) to give up big junction towns in order



PRESIDENT WILSON'S PRONOUNCEMENT FOR WAR WITH GERMANY: IN THE STROKEHOLD OF THE U.S. BATTLE-SHIP "MISSISSIPPI"—A 13,000-TON PRE-DREADNOUGHT.—[Photograph by Underwood and Underwood.]



AN AMERICAN PRECAUTION AGAINST ENEMY DAMAGE TO INTERNED GERMAN LINERS: NEW YORK POLICE GUARDING THE SS. "HAMBURG."

Photograph by S. and G.

to present a firm and defensible line to the enemy. Main-line railways are vital, but field-railways can do wonders at a pinch, and many fronts, cut off from their depôts, have yet held strongly—in a sense, the original German front on the Somme was an example of this; Péronne was the important railway town, but the vital towns (Douai, Cambrai, and St. Quentin) were far removed.



AMERICA ON GUARD AGAINST GERMAN OUTRAGES:
A U.S. NAVAL MILITIA SENTRY ON DUTY AT BROOKLYN
BRIDGE.—[Photograph by C.N.]

Thus, it seems to me that perhaps we might be paying too much attention to St. Quentin and Laon for merits for which they are no longer important—that is, we have made up our minds that the enemy feels himself bound to hold them, while his intentions might just as well have been to let them go. I am offering this as a speculation rather than a dogma, but it seems to me as feasible as any other theory. The Germans *may* have formed a plan that will give them a position behind St. Quentin and Laon, and perhaps some of the rapidity of our advance on this flank owes itself to this fact.

In support of this theory, I would suggest that if the Germans planned a line Cambrai-St. Quentin-Laon-Aisne, they planned a line that projected a salient at St. Quentin—that is, on that plan their line would not appear to be firm and straight, but bulging and dangerous. If, on the other hand, they had resolved to set a front further back, they would have to give up some useful depôt centres, defences, and strong ground, but they would have a line more workable and rigid, which at the same time would not labour under very great deficiencies in the matter of supply. For behind this line is the railway at Guise, and the Laon-Hirson main line, as well as the Mézières-Rethel main line, which form natural arteries for communications. Indeed, to whatever distance they swing this left wing of theirs, they will always be retreating along

great railways. I would therefore suggest that some front aligning roughly Cambrai-Guise-Aisne might just as reasonably be the fabulous "line" as any other. That, whatever swinging the line will accomplish, Cambrai will be the hinge, the situation and the fighting seem to bear out. The Arras-Cambrai front has shown itself exceedingly stubborn, and though we have made our advances—rather brilliant advances too—they have had to be made in the face of stiff resistance and many counter-attacks. The reason for this is not unconnected with the bad state of the ground begot of our shelling (the guns and the supply roads have to go over a veritable morass). But that the Germans have a very full appreciation of the value of this line is a very definite reason also. In a material sense, the Arras-Cambrai line protects Douai, and the whole of the rich industrial country below Lille. In another sense, the line holds in its keeping the safety of the Northern German front—let us get beyond Cambrai and we are dangerously across the flank of the Lens-Ypres line, with the front curved back badly to defend it. In the final sense, however, the Arras-Cambrai line must be the pivotal upon which all the movements of Hindenburg's left flank depend. We have only to look at the map to see how drastically the German front would be thrown out if we forced our way through. We can see how the German left would have to hurry to escape



INFANTRY TYPES OF THE REGULAR ARMY OF THE
UNITED STATES: A SENTRY BEING RELIEVED.

Photograph by Underwood and Underwood.

outflanking, and how supply and concentration might be numbed. Whether they will be able to cling to it is another matter. It may be that the steady and relentless advance of the British beyond Bapaume will be the factor to change the whole situation.

LONDON: APRIL 7, 1917.



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OUR SWIFT ADV

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LONDON: APRIL 7, 1917.



The British Western Advance: following up the Enemy.



OUR SWIFT ADVANCE: R.E. ROAD REMAKING; A LABOUR BATTALION BRIDGING AN ENEMY TRENCH.

Royal Engineers, infantry battalion working-parties of pioneers, Labour Battalion men, are keeping pace with the unsweep of our attacking army. Blown-up roads are being repaired, cleared, and relaid, mine-craters filled up or bridged, or turned by side roads. One witness to the work of the road-reconstruction corps is the rapidity with which the advance is being successfully continued

without the slackening on which, from all accounts, the enemy had confidently counted. Men of the R.E. are seen in the upper illustration relaying a destroyed road with pick and shovel and barrow. The lower illustration shows Labour Battalion men, helmeted against shrapnel, bridging a German trench. To the left is seen the head of a transport column.—[Official Photographs.]



The British Western front Advance: following



THE ENEMY'S ATTEMPTS TO BAR THE APPROACHES TO THE "HINDENBURG LINE"

These illustrations make one wonder more than ever at the rapidity with which the British Army in the St. Quentin district pressed forward over the country across which the Germans were driven during March. Our unrelenting advance may well, as it seems to have done, have foiled the enemy's design of establishing himself on the "Hindenburg Line" before the British

on the Heels of



A ROAD BLOCKED BY FELLED

could come up. Two samples of the work done through, hauling aside and hacking across a road; filling in mine-craters

nce: following

on the Heels of the Retreating Germans.



S TO THE "HINDENBURG LINE"

Army in the St. Quentin district
unresting advance may well, as
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A ROAD BLOCKED BY FELLED TREES; A ROAD BLOCKED BY A MINE-EXPLOSION.

could come up. Two samples of obstacles met everywhere are shown. Yet our pioneer working-parties cleared passage-ways through, hauling aside and hacking through the apparently inextricable barriers of felled trees, shown in the upper illustration across a road; filling in mine-craters and levelling a track, at places such as the second illustration shows.—[Official Photographs.]



The British Western front Advance: following



WHY THE GERMANS RETREATED "ACCORDING TO PLAN"; AND THEIR WANTON

By way of explaining away (for their own people and neutrals) their hasty evacuations of fortified positions, the Germans gave out that their retreat was "only according to plan." They would thus "shorten the line" and present a reinforced front on new positions. It was not suggested that the Allies would correspondingly shorten their line of attack and bring still

on the Heels of



BARBARISM: A BOMBARDED TR

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BARBARISM: A BOMBARDED TRENCH-LINE; A VILLAGE THE GERMANS BLEW UP.

heavier masses into action. The real reason of the enemy's evacuations is shown in the upper illustration. In the face of our terrific bombardment, continued holding of the attacked positions was impossible. In the lower illustration an instance is given of the wanton barbarity of the retreating enemy—the ruins of a village, deliberately destroyed before retiring.—[Official Photos.]

THE BEGINNINGS OF WAR-MACHINES: BREECH-LOADING CANNON.

BREECH-LOADING cannon of a crude type were used at a very early period, but the difficulties of providing a gas-tight breech action led to the adoption of muzzle-loaders. The breech-loading cannon of the fourteenth century (shown in Fig. 9) consisted of a barrel (A), open at both ends and fixed on a cradle, having an abutment at its after end, clear of the barrel.

After the charge had been inserted, a breech-block (B) was placed in the space between the barrel and the abutment, and kept in position by means of a wedge (C) for firing. As guns increased in size and power, the weakness of the breech mechanism—if one may use the term—became so serious that the breech opening was discarded. So matters continued until the middle of the nineteenth century. The difficulties experienced in finding a reliable breech-loader caused the British naval authorities to retain the muzzle-loader until about 1880. Then, however, the impossibility of running in, for loading at the muzzle, a gun with a barrel long enough to get full power out of modern propellants, led to the adoption of the breech-loader by us. Other navies had adopted it, but our retaining the muzzle-loader proved, as it happened, an advantage. It placed the experience of other nations at our disposal, and consequently the British naval breech-loader started with advantages. At the same time, our delay in adopting a breech-loading system might have been a costly matter had we become involved in war whilst still relying on muzzle-loaders.

Modern breech-blocks are usually operated either by a wedge or screw in some form or other. Some of them combine the two systems.

The wedge system is the older, and is still employed in the Krupp field-guns. The screw type is in general use in the British Services.

In the Wahrendorf breech action, invented in 1846 (Fig. 1), a cylindrical breech-block is inserted behind the charge, and a transverse bolt passed through it and the body of the gun. The whole mechanism is firmly secured by a wing-nut on an extension of the breech-block to the rear.

The Armstrong 110-pounder (shown in Fig. 3) is another example of a wedge action combined

with a screw for security. In this case a rectangular mortice is cut vertically through the body of the gun, into which is inserted a breech-block, provided with a touch-hole. That is done after the charge has been passed into the gun from the rear, through a hole in the breech screw, which forces the block forward against the rear end of the powder-chamber when the

gun is closed and ready for firing. In order to loosen the screw for re-loading, a double-ended handle, or lever, is mounted loosely on a shaft concentric with the bore of the gun. It is provided with projections which are brought in contact with similar projections on the screw-head, considerable rotary movement on the lever being obtainable before contact is made. By this means the weight of the lever can be used to give the screw a series of blows, if such be needed, to start

it. Fig. 10 shows the breech end and closing bar of an Armstrong 40-pounder position-gun.

Fig. 4 shows an American example of the "Interrupted screw" block. In this case the block is pushed forward until it is almost "home," and then given about one-eighth of a turn, during which the screw-threads engage and quickly tighten up the action.

This is the simplest form of Interrupted screw block, a system which, in conjunction with more complicated details, is generally used in our modern field and naval guns.

We have an example of a quickly operated screw block in Blakey's breech-loader (Fig. 5). In this case the operation is not quite so rapid as with an interrupted screw, because the block has to be completely rotated a sufficient number of

times for the threads on the taper-screws to clear one another and enable the block to be shifted bodily sufficiently far back to admit the charge. A parallel guide-bar, or slide, below "centres" the block, so as to engage the threads instantly when closing.

Fig. 5 shows an early Krupp action breech block. In this case there is a similar action to the Armstrong type described in Fig. 3. It is, however, a wedge-action pure and simple, no centre screw being used.

[Continued opposite.

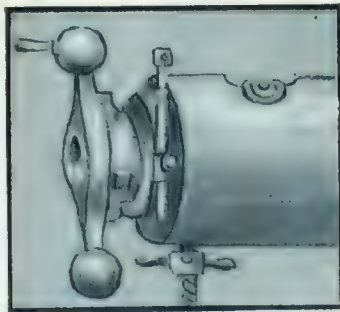


FIG. 10.—BREECH-END OF AN EARLY PATTERN ARMSTRONG 40-POUNDER.

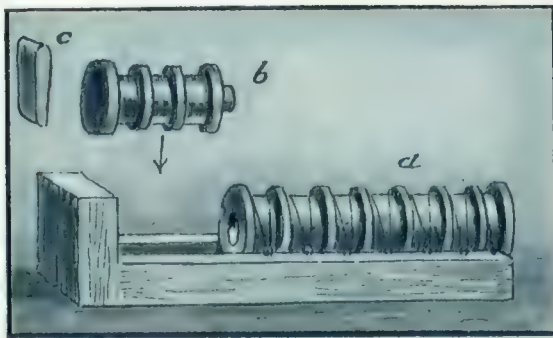
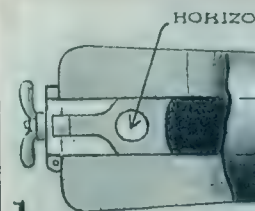
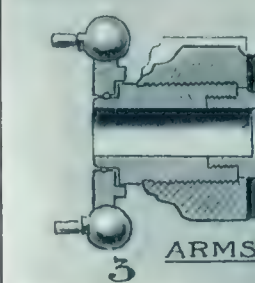


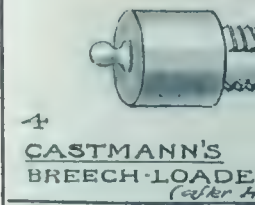
FIG. 9.—THE EARLIEST BREECH-LOADING METHOD.



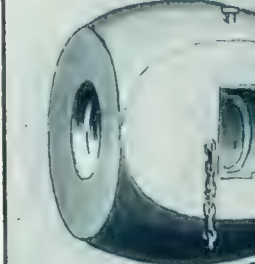
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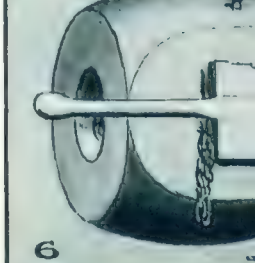
3 ARMSTRONG 110-POUNDER



4 CASTMANN'S BREECH-LOADING



5 BLAKEY'S BREECH-LOADING



6 BREECH OF AN EARLY KRUPP ACTION

MODERN BREECH-LOADING

[Continued.]

The taper of the wedge is in position when the weapon is pivoted on the wedge, forces short end on the gun-body shown in Figs. 7 and 8, has a hinge, and is secured by

NG CANNON.

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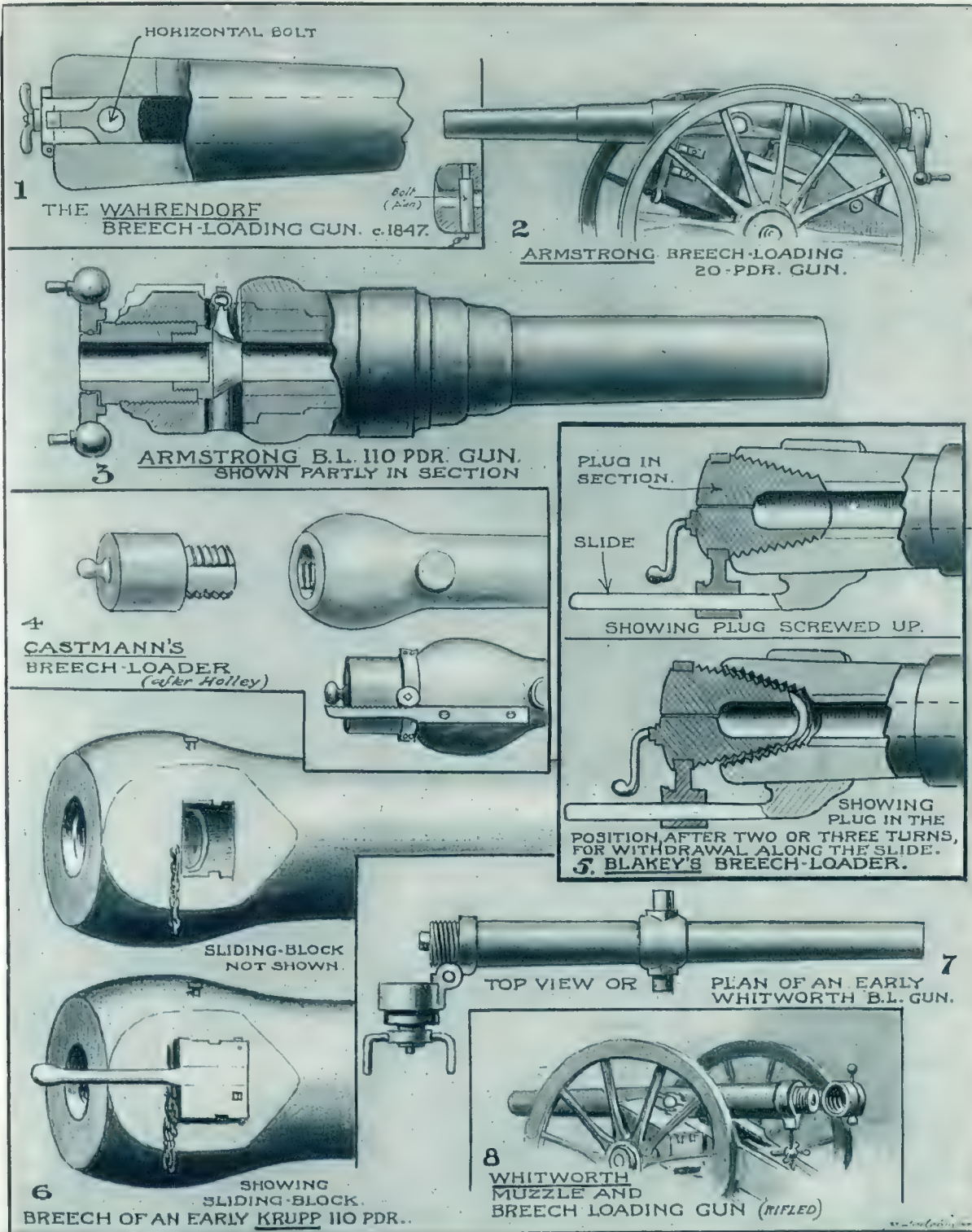
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Krupp action breech
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The Beginnings of War-Machines: Breech-loading Cannon.



MODERN BREECH-LOADING SYSTEMS: DEVELOPMENTS DURING THE PAST SEVENTY YEARS.

[Continued.]

The taper of the wedge is so slight that the block retains its position when the weapon is fired. The movement of a side-lever, pivoted on the wedge, forces the latter to start by pressure of its short end on the gun-body as a fulcrum. The Whitworth gun, shown in Figs. 7 and 8, has a breech-block which swings out on a hinge, and is secured by a screw when closed. This gun, an

80-pounder, is interesting in that it could be used either as a breech-loader or as a muzzle-loader, owing to the special system of rifling used. The breech actions of to-day are mostly developments of one or other of the devices above described, which were among the first moderately successful attempts at dealing with this development.



The British Western front Advance: following



VANDALISM OR A LEGITIMATE ACT OF WAR? A HOUSE IN A

It need not necessarily have been out of sheer vandalism that the Germans fired the house seen here. The official caption to the photograph states that it was "set on fire by the enemy as they were being driven through the village." The road through the village along which our troops attacked leads, as shown, close beside the house, and the dense smoke of the

on the Heels of

FRENCH VILLAGE, FIRED AS THE

incendiarism is seen blowing over the village by their assailants, is a common battle tactic with that aim, taking advantage of

advance: following

on the Heels of the Retreating Germans.



FRENCH VILLAGE, FIRED AS THE ENEMY WERE QUITTING IT.

incendiarism is seen blowing over the road. To make a big smoke, screened by which retreating parties can draw off unobserved by their assailants, is a common battle-expedient. The firing of the house, seen here nearly burned down, may have been done with that aim, taking advantage of the direction of the wind at the moment, as a legitimate artifice of warfare.—[Official Photograph.]

ATE ACT OF WAR? A HOUSE IN A
house seen here. The official caption
ven through the village." The road
house, and the dense smoke of the

ROMANCES OF THE REGIMENTS: XLIV.—THE 35TH NATIVE INFANTRY.

COLONEL SEATON'S ORDEAL.

"LOOK out, Sir, I saw that Sepoy loading his musket!"

Colonel Seaton (afterwards Major-General Sir Thomas Seaton) heard the warning with curious feelings, considering the mission upon which he was engaged. He had just left his own regiment, the 35th N.I., at Sealkot, and had come to Umballa to take temporary command of the 60th Native Infantry. The task was anything but pleasant, for the date was May 15, 1857; the dismal affair at Meerut was only five days old, and the 60th Sepoys had given unmistakable signs where their sympathies lay. It was well understood that on the previous Sunday they had been ready to massacre the British residents during Divine service. It was hoped, however, that the tact

But the authorities suddenly changed their mind. Just as the men were parading, orders came that they should march to take part in the siege of Delhi, so that they might have a chance to retrieve their character! This monstrous folly sickened and disgusted Seaton, but he had to make the best of it. He paraded the Sepoys, and swore them anew to fidelity to the Government. It was an empty ceremony, but it kept the regiment quiet for a few days longer. On the 21st they set out for the Mogul capital.

On the 24th they halted at Kurnaul. Next day came the astounding order to march to Rohtuk, to intercept the Hurrianah Light Infantry, already in open mutiny and guilty of abominable atrocities. To hurl the restless 60th into the arms



A GERMAN ENDEAVOUR TO DELAY OUR ADVANCE MADE INEFFECTIVE: TRANSPORT-WAGONS CROSSING A ROAD MINE-CRATER FILLED IN AND RENDERED PASSABLE: THE WORKING-PARTY LOOKING ON.

Photograph by S. and G.

of the Colonel of the 35th would yet win the 60th back to loyalty.

Colonel Seaton, who had arrived the night before, had just breakfasted, and was standing on the verandah of the Travellers' Bungalow, when a passer-by shouted to him to take care. He put up his field-glasses, and saw that the Sepoy belonged to the disaffected corps. He at once drove to the Adjutant's quarters, took over command, and had the newly relieved guards paraded. He addressed the men, told them the reason for the inspection, and said he was glad to find the sentry in question had been calumniated.

But Seaton in his heart knew otherwise, and next day he advised that the 60th be disarmed.

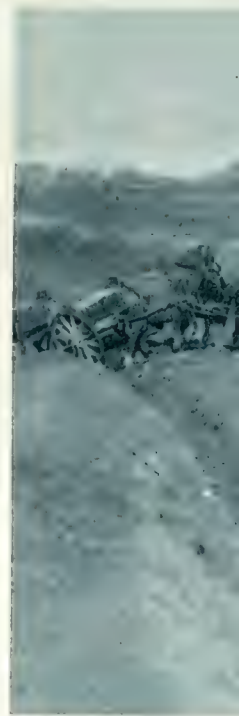
of such a mob was little else than a death-sentence to the gallant Colonel of the 35th and the British officers under his temporary command.

During a halt, a young Sepoy of the Grenadier company became very insolent to his Captain. Seaton overheard the altercation, and, going up to the man, looked at him sternly and asked if he knew what he was about. The native put up his hands and fell in humbly enough. Later in the day, the Colonel sent for him and questioned him about his conduct.

"Sahib," he replied, "I committed a great fault. I have repented. Forgive me."

"You ought not to have committed it. The Commander-in-Chief has been very good to this

[Continued overleaf.]



LEADING THE PURSU

As fast as the artillery, the fresh positions, the battery of four or six horsed artillery distance in rear during action after them, to take post ammunition columns is seen

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The Great British Advance: following Up the Enemy.



LEADING THE PURSUIT: AMMUNITION-WAGONS CROSSING A TRENCH; CAVALRY PATROLS NEAR MORY.

As fast as the artillery, the guns of the batteries, move forward to fresh positions, the battery ammunition columns, comprising teams of four or six horsed artillery wagons—which remain halted a short distance in rear during action, if possible under cover—move on after them, to take post as previously. One of our battery ammunition columns is seen in the upper illustration, making its

way across a former line of enemy trenches, each wagon heavily laden with its freight of shells. The lower illustration shows cavalry advanced guard patrols of ours on the move forward across the open country beyond the last captured German positions. Their special duty is to "feel" for the enemy, and intercept stragglers in rear of retreating columns.—[Official Photographs.]

regiment. Instead of punishing you all for your misconduct and mutiny at Umballa, he freely pardoned you. He took me from my own regiment and sent me to this, that I might be kind to you and warn you against further error."

Again the Sepoy protested his contrition and begged forgiveness, which Seaton granted.

The miseries of the march increased, and the Colonel, spent with lack of sleep, had to dismount and walk in order to keep himself awake. Then, during a morning halt at a well, another small incident occurred. A Sepoy saluted, and rather disrespectfully asked leave to stay behind, as his lotah (brass pot) had fallen into the well.

Stragglers had recently been murdered by the surrounding villagers, and the request was otherwise preposterous. Seaton, however, dealt subtly.

"What is the price of your lotah?" he asked.

"A rupee and a half, Sahib."

"Well, I'll give you a new lotah. A lotah is nothing to me, but a Sepoy's life is a great deal."

The man's manner changed. He snapped his fingers to his comrades and cried cheerily, "Come on, brothers; you hear what the Colonel Sahib says—fall in quickly."

The column moved, and the same day reached Rohtuk, to find that the mutinous Hurrianah regiment had just passed through in desperate

haste, heading for Delhi to join the rebels. Seaton, finding it impossible to get accurate news, wrote for instructions.

It was the hour when the Colonel usually visited the field hospital. He therefore strolled quietly out and bade the Adjutant send the drummers to meet him, as it were casually. The troops paraded as usual. Assembling the native officers and N.C.O.s a little apart from the ranks, the Colonel

taxed them with their treachery. They denied it stoutly, and swore by all their gods that they would be faithful to their salt. The native officers begged to select a guard for the night. Seaton agreed to the dangerous experiment.

The guard chosen was satisfactory, to all appearance, and two more days passed so quietly that the C.O. began to hope that all might yet be well; but one evening the young

Sepoy whom he had reprovved and forgiven, bent low and whispered, "Colonel Sahib, when your Highness's people have regained the Empire, I will make my petition to your Highness."

Seaton understood and prepared for the worst. It came suddenly at 4 p.m. on June 10. The Grenadier Company, accoutred, rushed out and began to shoot at their officers. By adroitness, coolness, and hard riding, Seaton and his colleagues got away and reached the forces before Delhi in safety, but ragged, spent, and destitute of everything.



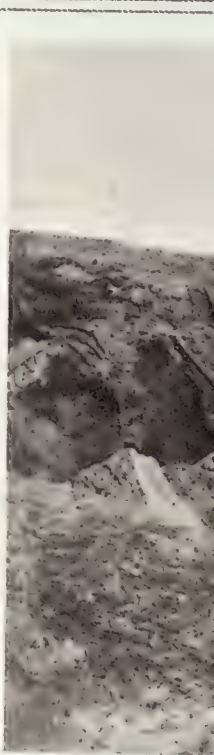
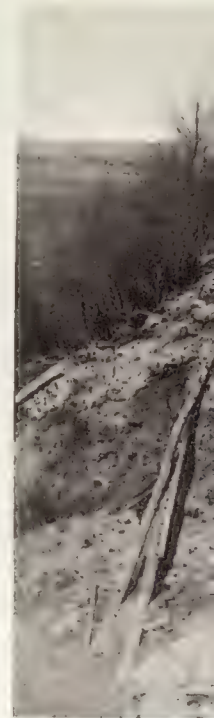
POST OFFICE DEPARTMENTAL WORK IN THE FIELD: AN ANZAC SOLDIER HAVING A LETTER REGISTERED AT A HEADQUARTERS OFFICE.—[Australian Official Photograph.]



AFTER THE CAPTURE OF BAPAUME: WORKING-PARTIES TO FILL UP SHELL-HOLES IN THE ROADWAY AND CLEAR THE STREETS OF MASONRY DÉBRIS, PASSING THROUGH THE TOWN.—[Australian Official Photograph.]



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RAILWAY LINE D.

Immediately the enemy pursuit were started under addition to brutally firing main roads and at cross from the direction of the. The permanent way was

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IN THE ROADWAY
[Official Photograph.]



The British Western Front Advance: To Hamper Pursuit.



RAILWAY LINE DAMAGE: THE PERMANENT WAY DESTROYED; WRECKAGE AT A BLOWN-UP VIADUCT.

Immediately the enemy began to fall back, operations to retard pursuit were started under cover of the German rearguards. In addition to brutally firing village houses and exploding mines along main roads and at cross roads particularly, the railway lines leading from the direction of the Allied advance were destroyed wholesale. The permanent way was pulled up, the rails were carried off or

bent and twisted out of shape, bonfires were made of the sleepers; the embankment culverts and viaducts were blown up. Even the ballast in places was dug up. Sometimes, as the upper illustration shows, telegraph posts were left standing, it may be with the idea of misleading the advancing troops as to possibilities of utilising the lines—until they reached the place.—[Official Photographs.]



The British Western front Advance: following



THE CAVALRY GET THEIR CHANCE TO TAKE THE FIELD:

Already, on the Western Front our cavalry, both British and Indian, have had opportunities of getting to close quarters with the Germans. As soon as the capture of the Bapaume Ridge and Péronne disclosed open ground beyond, cavalry, both British and Indian regiments, were launched in pursuit, to keep touch with the retreating army. At several points, regiments

on the Heels



OUR INDIAN LANCERS MAKING

of the German rear-guard attack a number of prisoners, who surrendered to machine-gun fire, broke and ran.

ance: following

on the Heels of the Retreating Germans.



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getting to close quarters with
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OUR INDIAN LANCERS MAKING A RECONNAISSANCE IN FORCE.

of the German rear-guard attempted to hold the cavalry back, resulting in sharp actions and cavalry charges, which captured a number of prisoners, who surrendered. In one village fight the enemy—infantry—after trying to beat our horsemen back with machine-gun fire, broke and ran immediately the cavalry lowered their lances and began to gallop in.—[Official Photographs.]



The British Western front Advance: following on the Heel



CIRCUMVENTING A GERMAN ROAD-MINE CRATER AT CROSS-ROADS: PACK-TRANSPORT SKIRTING THE GAPING

Without delaying for the filling-in of the mine-craters on sections of the highways by which the British artillery and transport vehicles were following, improvised side roads were levelled by our pioneers, to skirt the edges of the mine-craters. Along these the pack transport animals, provided for such emergencies by forethought at headquarters, were able with the least possible waiting

to circumvent the German obstacles. In some places even lines of vehicles skirted the edges of the mine-crater, exploded at a place where

Advance: following on the Heels of the Retreating Germans.



AT CROSS-ROADS: PACK-TRANSPORT SKIRTING THE GAPING CAVITY BY A PIONEER-MADE TEMPORARY TRACK.

the British artillery and transport
s of the mine-craters. Along these
able with the least possible waiting

to circumvent the German obstacles and keep up with the quickly advancing troops. Cavalry also were able to use them, and in some places even lines of vehicles and guns. A skirting road for pack transport round the edge of a deep and steep-sided German mine-crater, exploded at a place where cross-roads met in a destroyed village, is shown above in use.—[Official Photograph.]



The British Western front Advance: following



QUICK CLEARANCE BY OUR WORKING PARTIES: ON A ROAD WHICH

One expedient which the retreating Germans had resort to while falling back after the British break-through in the Péronne neighbourhood, was the blowing up of every kind of building adjacent to the highways, in order that the masonry heaps should bar vehicular passage on the road. In that way they hoped to be able to retard the British advance, to delay for an

on the Heels

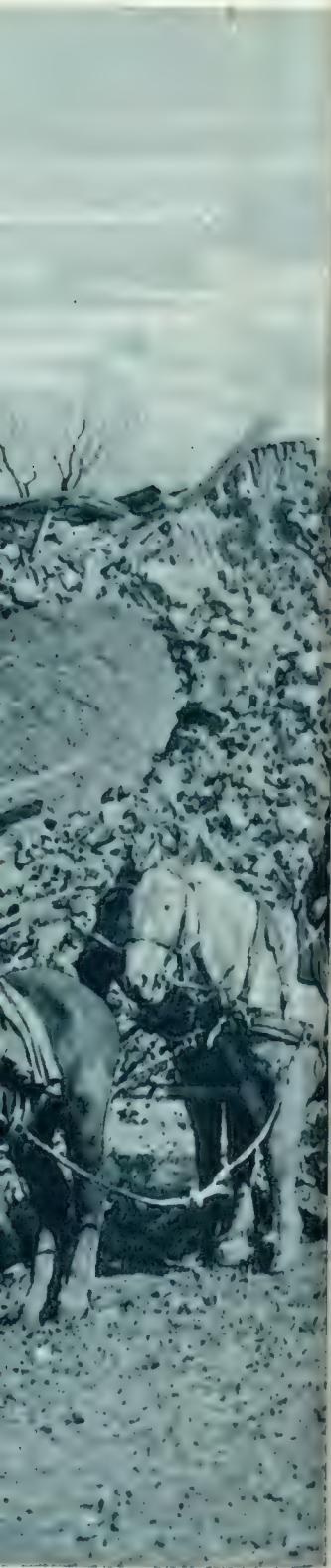


THE ENEMY HAD BLOCKED BY

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on the Heels of the Retreating Germans.



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THE ENEMY HAD BLOCKED BY BLOWING UP THE ADJACENT CHURCH.

appreciable period the coming-up of our guns, and of the supply columns with provisions and field stores for the ever-advancing infantry on their heels. They have, however, been foiled by the smartness with which our pioneers made a way through the obstructions. A village church with its débris cleared to allow of a double line of traffic is seen here.—[Official Photograph.]

On Leave from the front: Poilu as a Dandy.



BEING MADE PRESENTABLE: A FRENCH SOLDIER GETTING HIS BOOTS POLISHED.

Two French soldiers on short leave from the Front are seen here, one of them being dandified up by having the last and extra polish put on his boots. The French War Office authorities, like our own, as the exigencies of the service allow, grant special permits to soldiers whose battalions are not for the moment actually engaged before the enemy, enabling the men to return to their

native places for a short period so as to see their relatives and friends at home. It is a great occasion naturally for the *poulu*, and he makes the most of it, invariably having his toilette taken in hand, and being made presentable after reaching the railway station of his destination, and before letting himself be seen about the streets.

The Hour of DEATH



THE HOUR OF DEATH

Many a dramatic scene like this takes place late in the re-won villages, when the columns gain ground and are driven back by the Germans—only to be driven back again by their brutal oppressors into their cellars—almost every

The Allied Western front Advance: "Les français!"



THE HOUR OF DELIVERANCE FOR A FRENCH VILLAGE: RECOGNISING THEIR ONCOMING COMPATRIOTS.

Many a dramatic scene like that seen here has been witnessed of late in the re-won villages of Northern France, as the Allied columns gain ground and the inhabitants of the villages evacuated by the Germans—only old folk and children are left—learn that their brutal oppressors have gone. They emerge anxiously from their cellars—almost every French village dwelling has its cellar—

and other places of refuge, and sometimes, as correspondents relate, where the French retake a village, at first do not recognise the blue uniforms of the present Army war uniform as their deliverers approach, remembering only the red-trousered soldiers of former days. Then the truth dawns on them, and "Les Français!" is the cry. We see above a village group at such a moment.

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FOOTNOTES TO ARMAGEDDON: XXXV.—THE COURT OF REASON.

THE British soldier shifted clumsily and uneasily as he lay on the ground.

"Are you in pain?" asked the German beside him—he could turn his head, the German, no more. "Has it begun to hurt, my friend?"

"No—oh no, there's no pain at all," said the other. "I don't know why I moved. . . ." He seemed to think. "I didn't expect it to be like this. I didn't expect it to be painless, almost boring."

"I, too, am surprised," admitted the German. Then he took up their previous conversation. "So—you were a journalist, *hein*? I myself was a professor of mathematics. A professor in what you would call a boarding-school. War is made up of strange material—you and I, it is incongruous that we should be mixed in this mad stew."

"It's all hopelessly idiotic," said the Englishman.

"You feel that too? It has seemed like that to me since the first—reasonless, meaningless. A mad-dog slaughter, all to no end. I was a Social-Democrat before the war. Were you Socialistic?"

settling the matter with the stone club of the primordial savage. Only, of course, it's worse than that—we simply use the divine gifts of enlightenment and progress to make our club-work more thorough. The best in us has been made the slave of the worst."

"To what end," groaned the German, "to what end?"

"Just killing," said the Englishman.

"It is abominable, *hein*?" said the enemy. "So useless, and so quite unnecessary. What reason can you and I have for this killing, my friend? And you and I, all the men who fight, are those who really count. Do we hate each other? We do

not. If we met in a street, would we fly at each other with bomb and bayonet? We would not. . . . We—the mass of the two peoples—we are not really enemies, my friend. We have quite many sympathies with each other, we have quite much in common. You and I, we have studied, and we know that all the races at war are complements each to each other. In the long run, German and Briton, they are very much



IN A CAPTURED VILLAGE: CYCLISTS RESTING.

Official Photograph.



ON THE WESTERN FRONT: TREES AND WRECKAGE LAID ACROSS A ROAD TO IMPEDE THE BRITISH ADVANCE.

In the foreground is part of a mine-crater.—[Official Photograph.]

"I was a good Liberal outside business hours—my paper was Conservative. And—oh yes, the whole business is quite mad. In this age—it is driving to a peace conference in an automobile, and, instead of letting off an idealistic speech,

the same. We have really no use for war; there is 'nothing in it,' as I have heard your men say. All this slaughter is to no purpose. Left to reasonable men, it would not have happened."

"That is true," said the dying journalist. "If

(Continued overleaf.)



french



WALLS OF 4-FOOT

We are shown here one of the French line-emplacements, or armoured front of the French line-emplacements, and had concrete of 3-inch Krupp steel. The redoubt. Some of the Krupp

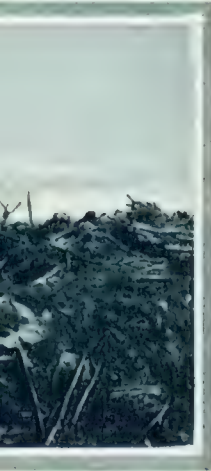
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BRITISH ADVANCE.

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(Continued overleaf.)

french Western Advance: A Captured Blockhouse.



WALLS OF 4-FOOT CONCRETE FACED WITH 3-INCH KRUPP STEEL: A MACHINE-GUN EMPLACEMENT.

We are shown here one of the elaborately fortified machine-gun emplacements, or armoured blockhouses, near Roye, formerly in front of the French line on the Somme. It was stoutly constructed, and had concrete walls 4 feet thick, with armour-plating of 3-inch Krupp steel. The place was really an outlying fortress redoubt. Some of the Krupp plates are seen leaning against the

walls. When the French attacked the Roye position the enemy gave up the whole of the ground without serious defence. At Roye, says the French official report, "the enemy, refusing battle, abandoned under pressure of our troops the powerfully and scientifically fortified lines which he had been holding for more than two years."—[Official Photographs.]

the mass of the people had been consulted, it would not have occurred. Really, war is the hobby and obsession of a limited and bureaucratic class. The people in the bulk have gone beyond this mediæval ideal. Left to the people, it would have been all right. There would be no



IN A CAPTURED VILLAGE: TOMMIES AT DINNER.
Official Photograph.

grounds for scuffling, or quarrelling, or difference. The whole rumpus would have been considered reasonably, and without heat. . . . You and I are not quarrelling, though, technically, we are enemies."

"Quite right, my friend. We realise the common ground. Humanity is the same all the world over."

"Quite," said the Englishman.

A shrapnel burst a little to the right. The explosion broke into their talk. For a little while both lay silent. They felt no pain, only serene and perhaps exalted—though both knew that they were to die in the course of the next few hours. They had an almost tender friendliness for each other. Here at the brink of death they had got down to the bed-rock of things; they had rid their minds of rancour, had realised the oneness of the world. The journalist said presently—

"War is the sport of Kings."

"Yes, my friend," agreed the professor; "it is the sport of Kings, and Governments too."

The journalist agreed dreamily.

"It is the same thing. I've never, myself, been one of those who pin the sole responsibility of the war on to the Kaiser. I agree that he is one—the tool, if you like—of a jingoist camarilla. I consider—"

The German turned his head and stared wonderingly.

"My friend, what is that you are saying?"

"I was saying it was rather a bureaucracy of bullies that forced Germany to declare war on

civilisation . . ." The German was amazed.

"My friend, that is mad talk. Bullies—*ach!* But yes, I will admit this 'bullies'; the bullies that bullied our triumphant mercantile marine on the seas, who set us round with a wall of foes, who forced Belgium to betray her neutrality—those are the bullies who forced Germany to fight for her life."

The Englishman turned in astonishment.

"Oh, I say," he cried, "you don't believe all that fudge? As a reasonable man, you must know there is not a word of truth in any of it. Your very logic must tell you that Germany wanted this war and planned it because she—her rulers, anyhow—were lusty for conquest."

"You talk like a madman," said the German, in rage. "This war was forced on us—leave our rulers out, we Germans can see the facts—this war was forced on us by England because England was jealous of our power, our culture, our pre-eminence in all things."

"Rot!" snapped the Englishman. "Culture be damned! Was it culture that sacked Belgium?"

"*Schweinhund* with your lies! You with your black men to strengthen your degenerate feebleness, cast you vile slanders at the race chosen to lead the world? Dog!"

"My hat!" snarled the Englishman. "Degenerate! What wouldn't I give to show



ON THE WESTERN FRONT: CHINESE STUDENTS STARTING FOR THE TRENCHES.—[Official Photograph.]

you just for a minute what a degenerate Britisher can do to a—a low-down, slaughterous Hun!"

"*Donner!*" wailed the German. "Oh, for a chance to slash this pig-man across the face!"

The shrapnel burst again. Its coming ended the interesting attempt of two reasonable and logical men to settle differences on the basis of humanity.

W. DOUGLAS NEWTON.



THE ABYSSINIAN CORO

The change of rulers in Abyssinia. Lidj Jeassu, having come un- and offending the Christian protested, and last September of the late Emperor Menelek, ensued, in which her forces were

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DENTS STARTING
[Photograph.]

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The New Pro-Ally Ruler of Abyssinia.



THE ABYSSINIAN CORONATION: THE REGENT ENTERING ADDIS ABABA; AND THE EMPRESS ZEODITA.

The change of rulers in Abyssinia was due to the deposed Emperor, Lidj Jeassu, having come under German and Turkish influences and offending the Christian population. The Entente Legations protested, and last September his mother's sister, Zeodita, daughter of the late Emperor Menelek, was declared Empress. Civil war ensued, in which her forces were finally victorious. Her Coronation

took place with much pomp in St. George's Cathedral at Addis Abeba on February 11. The Entente Ministers attended, but not the German Minister or the Turkish Consul-General. The Empress left the Cathedral with the Regent, Ras Taffari, and took her seat on a throne in the courtyard, where the Diplomatic Corps passed before her.—[French Official Photograph.]

With the Grand fleet at Sea: filling the Magazines.



FOR ACTION BELOW AND ABOVE WATER: SHIPPING TORPEDOES; SENDING DOWN A 15-INCH SHELL.

Torpedoes just shipped on board a war-ship from an Ordnance Store department transport (the dark sail of which is seen in the background to the right) are shown on deck, in the upper illustration. The great size of a modern torpedo may be realised by looking at the one in the foreground of the illustration. The portion seen is about five-sixths of the total length. Inside are

the propelling mechanism, the compressed-air chamber, and the steering and regulating machinery. The lower illustration shows a big shell, of 15-in. calibre, after being shipped from an ammunition transport alongside, in the act of being lowered through the oblong-shaped hatchway seen, down to the shell-room and magazine, which is in the depths of the hull.—[Official Photographs.]

With the



TRUCKING A 15-INCH S

In the upper illustration three M giant 15-inch shells which com turret-guns on board certain o transferring the projectile between board from the ammunition supp on the upper deck. There the

Magazines.



A 15-INCH SHELL.

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With the Grand fleet at Sea: filling the Magazines.



TRUCKING A 15-INCH SHELL ON THE UPPER DECK, TO THE MAGAZINE-HATCHWAY: A STIFF PULL.

In the upper illustration three Marines are seen trucking one of the giant 15-inch shells which comprise the projectiles fired by the turret-guns on board certain of our war-ships. The men are transferring the projectile between the place where it was slung on board from the ammunition supply-ship to the magazine hatchway on the upper deck. There the shells are lowered one by one to

the magazines, deep down below the lower edge of the armour-belt, and several feet below the water-line level. Each 15-inch calibre shell weighs, approximately, three-quarters of a ton, and shifting them about on the shell-trucks is a stiff piece of work for the working parties of three men told off to each truck, as the close view in the lower illustration suggests.—[Official Photographs.]



The Allied Western front Advance: The German Retreat.



"FISHING" FOR ENEMY WAR MATÉRIEL; POILUS AT A VILLAGE POND RECOVERING WIRE COILS.

The German Western Front retreat was "carried out according to the plans beforehand of the General Staff." So the German nation and neutrals were officially informed. The costly sacrifice of German war material that took place was, therefore, of no account. Our soldiers, as they approached position after position, saw explosions of magazines, and large storehouses blazing. They

found, abandoned in the German lines, quantities of ammunition and all manner of war materials. In the captured villages, the French and ourselves found in the ponds, thrown away, valuable army gear, so got rid of. "Fishing" operations, as illustrated above, bring up many most useful "hauls."—[Official Photograph and Canadian War Records Photograph.]



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BESIDE THE RUINS OF

Bapaume was the first of the "evils" of the war. French territory in which the German nation was being driven out by the Allied forces. Wholesale every kind of edifice, from the people alike. Immediately the Bapaume Ridge, foreshadowing the

April 11, 1917

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COVERING WIRE COILS.

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April 11, 1917

THE ILLUSTRATED WAR NEWS.

[Part 41
New Series]—33

The British Western front Advance: In Bapaume.



BESIDE THE RUINS OF THE MAIRIE, WANTONLY DESTROYED BY THE ENEMY: AUSTRALIANS OFF DUTY.

Bapaume was the first of the evacuated towns in the reconquered French territory in which the Germans gave rein to their fury at being driven out by the Allied advance, by wantonly destroying wholesale every kind of edifice, public buildings and dwellings of the people alike. Immediately the British gained the crest of the Bapaume Ridge, foreshadowing the capture of the town immediately

afterwards, incendiarism in Bapaume started. Our men saw streets of houses burning and the glare of explosions, as the public buildings were destroyed. They entered, led by the Australian advanced guard, amidst the reek of ruins, and passing blazing houses. The fate of the Mairie (the town hall) is shown here with Australian soldiers in the picture.—[Australian Official Photograph.]

WOMEN AND THE WAR.

EVEN now there are people who have very little notion of the extent to which women are taking an active part in helping to win the war. To such the phrase "women munition workers" signifies nothing more than the fact that women "have something to do with the easy parts of shell-making," or that "there is some powder that turns their faces yellow." As a matter of fact, there is hardly a branch of industry or engineering connected with the making of munitions of war in which women are not playing an important and a responsible part—a fact which the exhibition of women's work in munition and other factories held at the Colonial Institute the other day brought out very clearly.

Quite one of the most interesting exhibits related to the optical work now undertaken by women—who, by-the-bye, are first trained at the Optical Munitions Training School, Northampton Polytechnic, St. John's Road, Camberwell. Besides being of a very skilled nature, the work is specially suitable to women, requiring as it does a strong, firm, steady, but withal delicate touch. Probably the most difficult work in this connection undertaken by women is the adjustment of the various optical systems used in binoculars, dial-sights, and other scientific instruments used by

gunners in their work of locating targets, seen or unseen. Lenses and prisms apart, a pair of binoculars were on view, which, with the exception of the flattening and filing of the cover-plates and

the insertion of one screw, had been made entirely by women; so that, after all, women, it seems, do possess the skill and exactitude which were at one time reckoned masculine prerogatives.

Much has been written about the part played by women in the making of shells, fuses, explosives, and the manufacture of small-arms, but few people, perhaps, realise the extent to which they are employed upon the processes

connected with air-craft construction; and the responsible nature of the work they do is the best possible testimonial to the value their employers set upon their services. All aeroplane work has to be very exact, but the women engaged in

making the parts have to mark them off themselves from the drawings with which they are supplied. Welding is another process that figures largely in aeroplane construction, and is a delicate and difficult business. Any carelessness, if passed, might mean the sacrifice of the aviator's life; but here again the extent to which women's services are em-

ployed shows that responsible work can with perfect safety be entrusted to feminine workers.

(Continued overleaf.)



NATIONAL SERVICE FOR GIRLS ON THE FARMS:
WELL-EARNED REST.

Our photograph shows some of the workers on an Essex farm, resting after a hard day's work in the fields.—[Photograph by L.N.A.]



WOMEN AS NATIONAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS: RECRUITS
ON AN ESSEX FARM.

The first National Service girl recruits for the farms have taken up their new work in Essex, and are showing promise of soon becoming expert. Our picture shows a lesson in harrowing.—[Photograph by L.N.A.]

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[Continued overleaf.]

An Eastbourne War-Worker: The Lady Taxi-Driver.



"THE YELLOW BIRD" AND ITS DRIVER: MISS SCOTT AND HER TAXI.

It is not surprising to learn that "The Yellow Bird" and its plucky driver are very popular and very much in request in Eastbourne, for Miss Scott has taken up her work in good earnest, and is a fully qualified and fully licensed taxi-driver. Those who know the comparatively small proportion of applicants who have been successful in qualifying for such a post in London can realise the satisfaction

with which Miss Scott must have received her licence, and that she is well content with her work and popular with her clients is evident in our photograph. The conditions under which such work is carried out in Eastbourne differ largely from the more onerous and nerve-trying conditions of London traffic, but none the less Miss Scott is to be congratulated upon her war-work.—[Photo. by C.N.]

Tool-setting used to be regarded as work which men only could undertake successfully; but the theory, like so many others, has been dissipated by the war. In the making of aircraft engines women not only do all the operations from start to finish, including the fitting and final assembling upon the air-pump of a rotary aero-engine, but in



AN OPENING FOR NATIONAL SERVICE VOLUNTEERS. Mrs. Brendon, of Froggatt's Farm, Ockley, Surrey, who is seen in our photograph at work, has a farm of sixty-five acres to attend to single-handed, her last man having been called to the Colours. Here is an excellent opportunity for National Service Volunteers.

Photograph by Central Press.

every case the operator sets and grinds her own tools. In the engine-erecting shops they strip the engines after testing, and examine and view the parts, make up wiring sets for the engines complete and ready for the assemblers; strip engines returned for repair and view the parts, and assist in altering Admiralty engines for military work. Outside the engineering shops, women do a large amount of the work on the fabrics required for aeroplanes, balloons, airships, and tents. All the cutting out and sewing of canvas falls to their lot, they inspect the seams and cover, stretch and sew canvas on the wings, ailerons, tail-planes, and rudders of aeroplanes. They undertake the doping, sizing, and varnishing of planes; paint the identification rings, stencilling, and painting marks; cut out, tack, and machine rubber fabric for balloons, as well as many other jobs.

Perhaps the most fiendish instrument of war made by women is an aerial torpedo, a murderous-looking device designed for pumping death into trenches. The large round body and the stout propeller-blades with which it is fitted are stamped, machined, and welded by feminine hands.

Still, all the work is not destructive, and many modern theories have had to be revised during the war. There is a distinctly mediæval flavour

in the idea of visors of chain-mail. Women are, however, employed on their manufacture, and, when finished, they form steel curtains and are slung across the front of the trench-helmets to protect the eyes of our men. Body-armour is another relic of the Middle Ages used in the war. The modern version of it consists of slightly curved metal plates enclosed in brown drill, and so designed as to protect the vital parts of the body.

It is interesting to know that, while women are working to help the men, the men are not indifferent to the welfare of the women. Factory conditions have been enormously improved since the woman munition-maker entered the industrial field, and those who contemplate offering their services to the nation in this way need have no fears that inadequate provision will be made for their welfare. Many of the munition factories have been constructed or adapted for the work since the war began, and, in consequence, the lighting and ventilation arrangements are in line with all the ideals of modern hygienic science. Further, most factories have now their own rest-rooms, canteens, and ambulance-rooms, where recreation, hot meals, and first aid in case of accident or sudden indisposition are always to be had. One heard a great deal at one time of the unbecoming results of dealing with certain explosives; but in this



AN OPENING FOR NATIONAL SERVICE GIRL VOLUNTEERS AT FROGGATT'S FARM.

Mrs. Brendon, of Froggatt's Farm, Ockley, Surrey, has a sixty-five acre farm to manage single-handed, her last man having been called up. Girl volunteers can render real service to their country by helping Mrs. Brendon to make each acre as productive as possible.

Photograph by Central Press.

direction, too, scientific experts have made the welfare of the worker their special care, and fire-proof overalls, caps, veils, gloves, respirators, and face-lotions go far towards eliminating the chances of injury.

CLAUDINE CLEVE.



EXTREMES IN

In the upper illustration completed and most powerful in the Navy of the United States fleet units of the American Union, and small on, in a regularly grad

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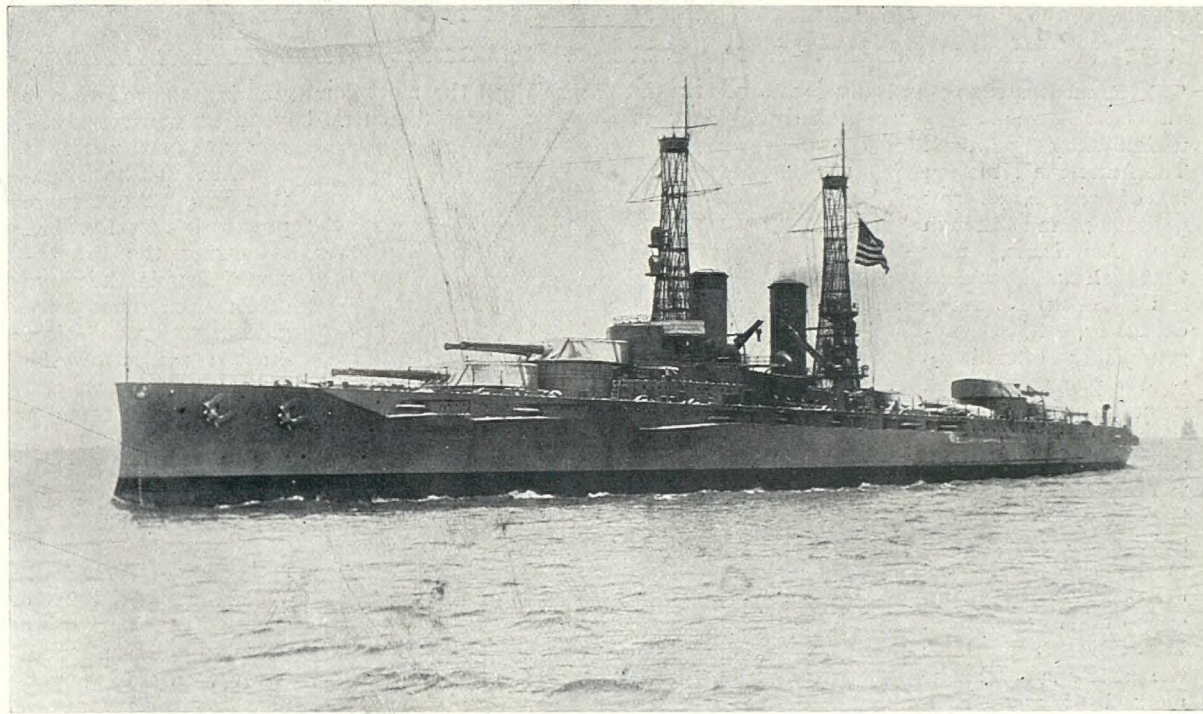
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CLAUDINE CLEVE.

America's Battle and "Mosquito" fleets.



EXTREMES IN THE U.S. NAVY: SUPER-DREADNOUGHT "TEXAS"; SUBMARINE-CHASER "LYNX."

In the upper illustration is shown one of the most recently completed and most powerful of the latest type of super-Dreadnoughts in the Navy of the United States—the "Texas." The large battle-fleet units of the American Navy are all named after the States of the Union, and smaller vessels after cities and towns, and so on, in a regularly graduated scale, so that classification is easy.

Newspaper readers can know at a glance, when a ship's name is mentioned, what kind of vessel is concerned. Destroyers and torpedo craft bear the names of distinguished officers of the past. In the second illustration one of the specially built new "Submarine Chasers" of the American Volunteer Fleet—the "Lynx" by name—is seen out for a run.—[Photos. by C.N. and Topical.]

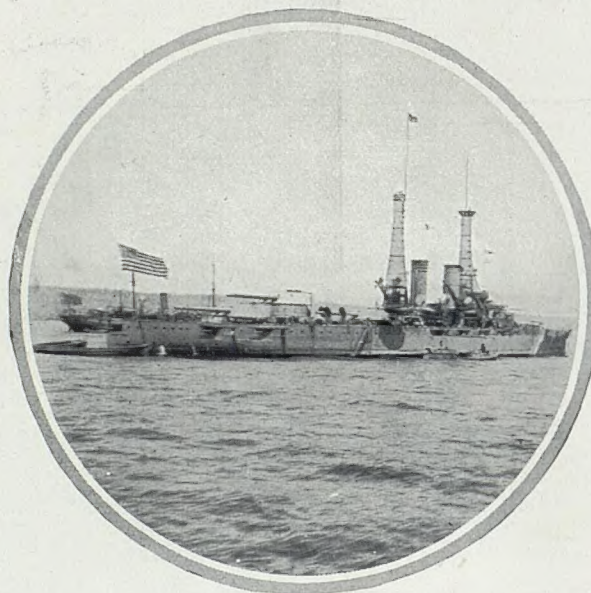
THE GREAT WAR.

By W. DOUGLAS NEWTON.

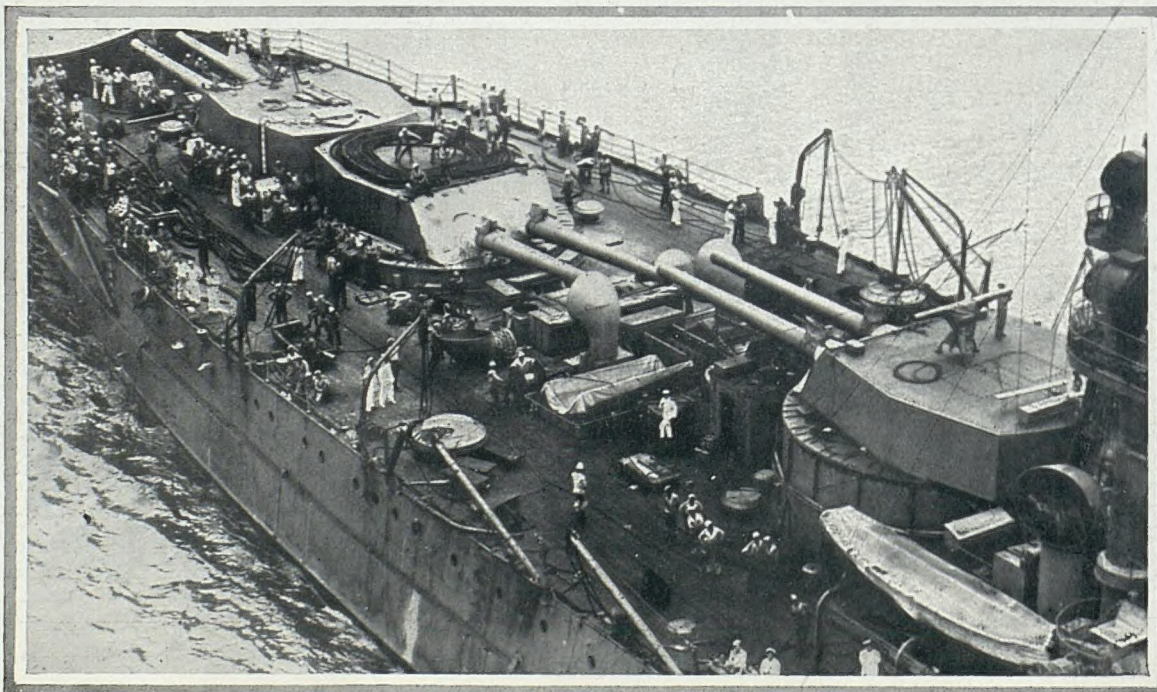
THE VALUE OF AMERICA—THE APPEAL OF DEMOCRACY—THE TURKISH FLIGHT.

THE most striking and invigorating news in the fields of war outside the West is undoubtedly political. The American situation is, of course, as yet political; and though the Americans, now that their President has taken up his stand definitely, have ungrudgingly offered to pool plans, capital, men, ships, and munitions with the Allies, at this early date it is the moral quality of the recent development that weighs most in the scales. In the direct sense the moral support is enormous. It vindicates at once the attitude and the method of war—especially sea war—adopted by the Allies. It concentrated the world opinion of democracy on our side, and it shows, above all, that the German war spirit is a thing so evil that it has

provoked the most long-suffering as well as the most powerful neutral beyond endurance. Indirectly, the part of America in the situation may have a more practical moral value. Following the Revolution in Russia, the move of America must have great and grave effect on the minds of the Germans themselves. Russia has become a democracy, and has refused to treat with the Prussian autocracy. America, the greatest of the neutral democracies, has, as President Wilson explained in a speech of singular greatness and nobility, found it necessary to forget her friendship for the German people in order to confront the German rulers. There is the same real note running through President Wilson's declaration as there is running through the declarations of the



THE UNITED STATES NAVY: ONE OF THE NEWEST AMERICAN SUPER-DREADNOUGHTS—THE "NEW YORK."

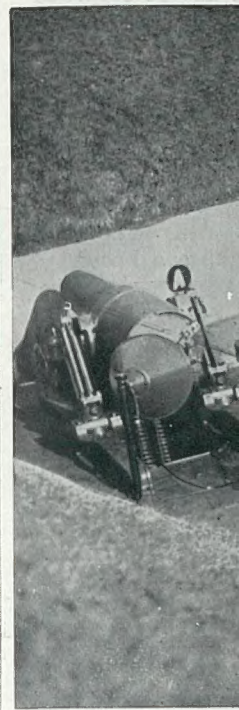


THE AMERICAN NAVY: THE BATTLE-SHIP "FLORIDA"—THREE OF THE 14-INCH-GUN TURRETS OF THE MAIN ARMAMENT ON THE UPPER DECK (AS VIEWED FROM BROOKLYN BRIDGE).

The centre turret is, of course, designed for broadside action, or at angles with the line-of-keel, clear of the adjacent turrets, fore and aft.—[Photograph by Illustrations Bureau.]



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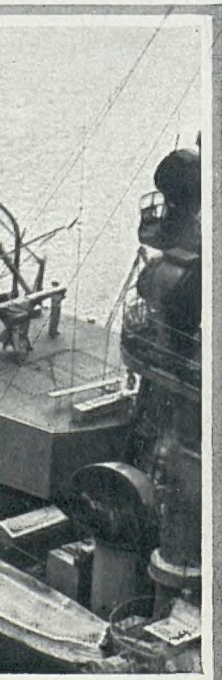
HOWITZERS AND

The upper illustration shows a powerful coast-defence howitzer, the taking of special note of the Atlantic seaboard of the United States, below ground-level from the shore for high-angle fire with

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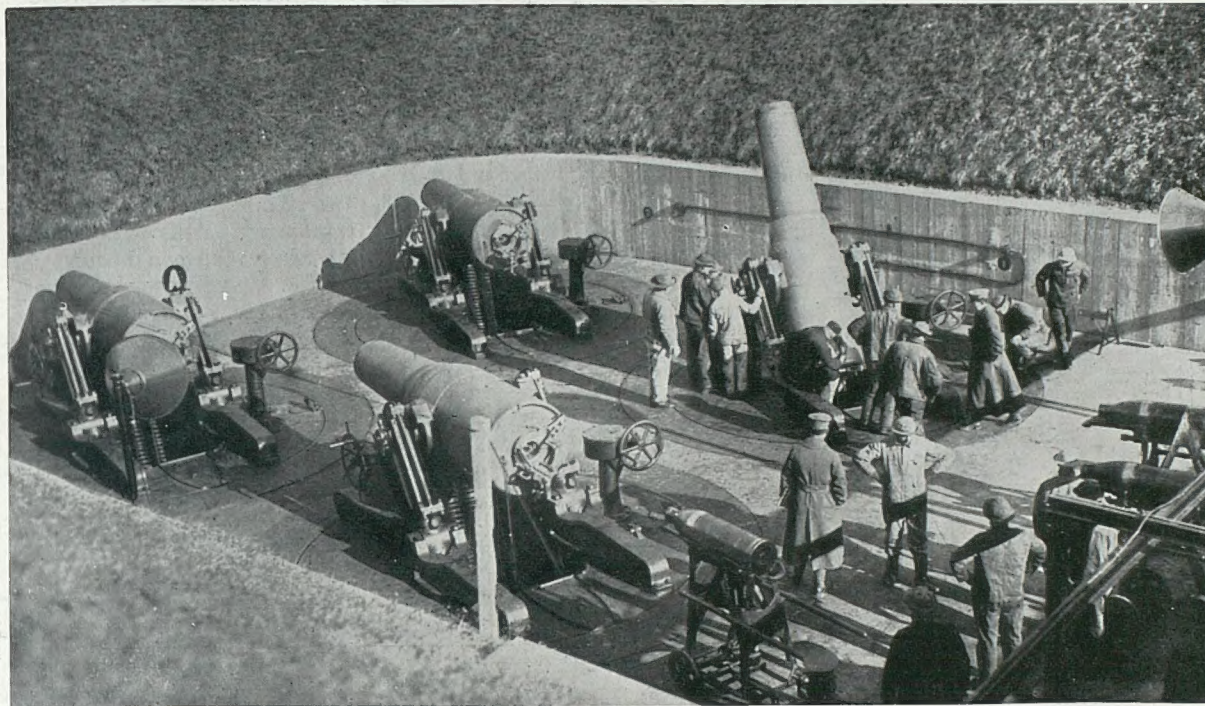
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America under Arms: Coast and Land Defenders.



HOWITZERS AND AUTOMATIC RIFLES; AN ATLANTIC SEABOARD CLIFF FORT; TARGET SHOOTING.

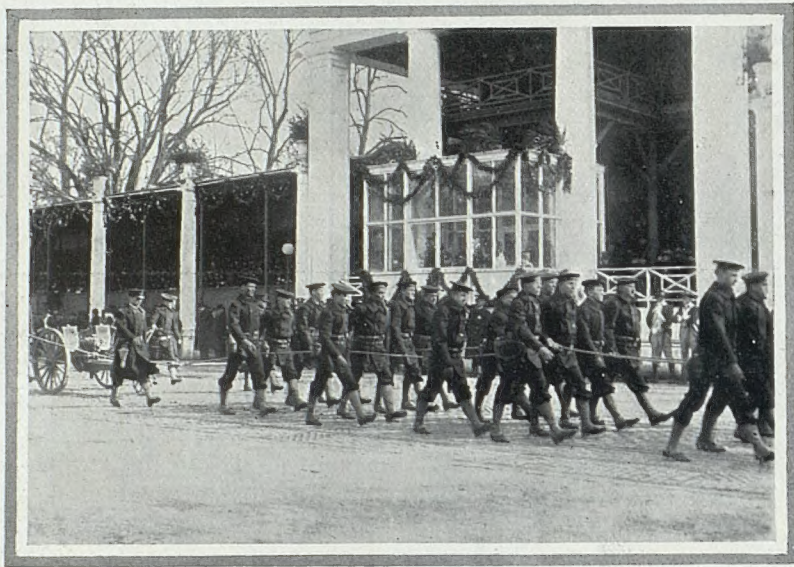
The upper illustration shows the interior of one of the series of powerful coast-defence forts which, at certain points requiring the taking of special measures, have been constructed along the Atlantic seaboard of the United States. They stand high, concealed below ground-level from the sea. Four heavy howitzers, designed for high-angle fire with big projectiles, are seen on the central

platform. The trajectory curve of the shells, through its steep angle of descent, renders the batteries exceptionally formidable opponents to any naval attacking force. The shells would come down almost vertically on ship's decks, while range-finding from ashore is a simple matter. The lower illustration shows an American automatic-gun detachment at firing drill.—[Photos. by C.N.]

Russian leaders. Russia and the President join the fighting democrats of the world in insisting that that thing we call militarism, or autocracy, or frightfulness is a hateful, dangerous, and criminal thing, and that it must be purged

to rebellion; but, at the same time, we can see that the germs of revolution must be there. I expect nothing, but I would not be surprised if something happened.

On the general fronts there has been little of very striking nature. The situation at Baghdad has every appearance of solid excellence. Sir Stanley Maude has covered his left flank, by prolonging it towards the Euphrates, while he has taken all the fertile country to the north east of the town. He has also pushed his front upward in the direction of Mosul, and with the buffers being operated in the zone of Khanikin—the Russians being the upper and the British the nether millstone—the Turks in this region seem to be in a thoroughly unpleasant position. On the Russian front proper there has been a reawakening of fighting, but little of great importance; and the same can be said for the line in Roumania. In Macedonia the Allies have done well, the French, in particular, having improved their position and beaten the Bulgarians back. On the Italian line the rumour of attack seems to have dwindled—the Austrians, indeed, capping it with a counter-rumour of an Italian attack.



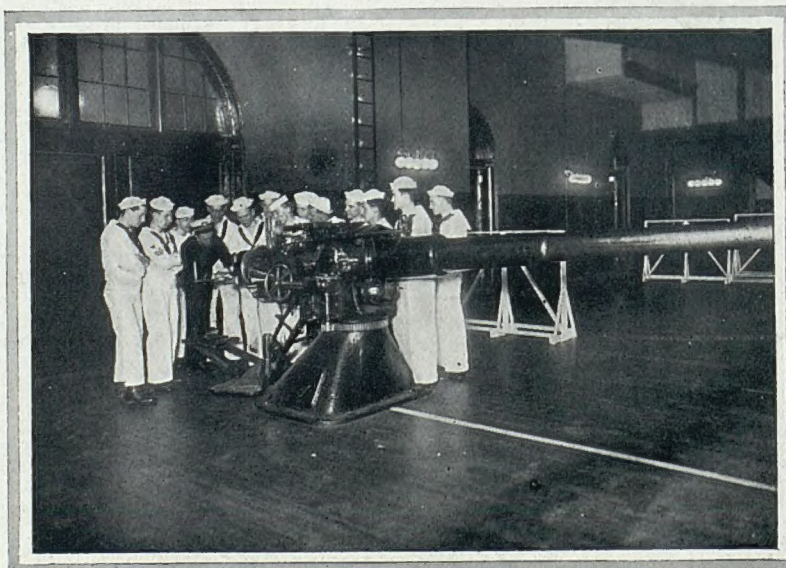
AMERICA'S NAVY: A BLUEJACKET LANDING PARTY AND LIGHT GUN—A SECTION IN MARCHING ORDER ADVANCING THEIR PIECE WITH DRAG-ROPES.

Photograph by C.N.

from the world if men desire to live free. The entry of America, like the revolution in Russia, would count against not indeed the German people so much as the German rulers. I do not wish to exaggerate the power of this new moral stroke, but we have seen something of the effect of Russian events on the people of Germany. There has been a great accession to the sense of political unrest, and the Social-Democrats, seeing their chances, have combined to attack the governing system. The Russian revolution quickened a thoroughly worn and miserable people. What might an American declaration do? I seem to see it not merely as assistance to the Allies, but a new power to the Social-Democrats in Germany. There is no mistaking the meaning or the sincerity of President Wilson's speech. If the already awakened Germans ever read it, it may give them very seriously to think on the matters of right and wrong. And, when they start thinking, in their present condition, where will they stop? I do not prophesy revolution. The German has had generations of "discipline," and his nature may not be prone

There has been a good deal of artillery action, and the Italians have made one or two coups of capable but minor nature.

LONDON; APRIL 7, 1917.



AMERICA'S NAVY: IN THE TRAINING SCHOOL AT BROOKLYN ARMOURY—A GUNNERY CLASS UNDER INSTRUCTION IN THE BREECH-MECHANISM OF A 4-INCH QUICK-FIRER.—[Photograph by S. and G.]

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GERMAN BARBARITY